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LETTER DATED 18 OCTOBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTAIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Mr. Ahmad Hussein, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, dated 18 October 1991 concerning the Turkish side's violation of Iraqi territory.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Abd al-Amir AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Further to our letter dated 13 October 1991, I have the honour to bring to your cognizance the information given below concerning the Turkish side's violation of the territory of the Republic of Iraq and its sovereignty and territorial integrity:

1. During the night of 10-11 October 1991, a Turkish force entered the territory of the Republic of Iraq in the northern zone in the direction of the border village of Fatam in search of elements of the Turkish Kurdistan Workers Party.

2. In the early morning on 11 October 1991, eight Turkish warplanes bombed Iraqi areas, the Bikufah complex, Zakho district, the two villages of Banak al-Ulya and Banak al-Sufla, the village of Shilan and the village of Siriya, using napalm bombs. This led to the wounding and injuring of 35 persons among the civilian population.

These blatant violations of the territory of the Republic of Iraq and its sovereignty and territorial integrity constitute a clear breach of the United Nations Charter, the principles of international law and the Iraq-Turkey border treaty of 1926. They also cause considerable damage to relations of good-neighbourliness between the Iraqi and Turkish peoples.

While affirming Iraq's full right to react as it sees fit, in accordance with international law and the United Nations Charter, to the violations of its sovereignty and its national territorial integrity, we request you to intervene and to take immediate steps to put an end to these violations, which are damaging, first and foremost, to the credibility of the United Nations and it role in the protection of the independence and territorial sovereignty of Member States.

We request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ahmad HUSSEIN
Minister for Foreign Affairs
18 October 1991